

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding a PLD from a *Neisseria* bacterium.

8. (Withdrawn) The polynucleotide of claim 7, wherein the polynucleotide comprises nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified polypeptide comprising amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:14 from *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* encoded by nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.

10. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified polypeptide comprising phospholipase D from a *Neisseria* bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:14.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) A vaccine comprising an immunogenic amount of the polypeptide of claim 10, which amount is effective to immunize a patient against a neisserial infection of cervical cells, in combination with a physiologically-acceptable, non-toxic vehicle.

13. (Previously presented) The vaccine of claim 12, which further comprises an effective amount of an immunological adjuvant.

14. (Previously presented) The vaccine of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.

15. (Previously presented) The vaccine of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.

16. (Currently Amended) The vaccine of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising ~~SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32~~.

17. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) A method of protecting a patient against *Neisseria* colonization or infection comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a vaccine comprising an immunogenic amount of the polypeptide of claim 10, which amount is effective to immunize a susceptible patient against a neisserial infection, in combination with a physiologically-acceptable, non-toxic vehicle.

18. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) The method of claim 17, which further comprises an effective amount of an immunological adjuvant.

19. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.

20. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.

21. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the vaccine is administered orally, mucosally or by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection.

22. (Withdrawn -- Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising ~~SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32~~.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 10 that is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.
26. (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 10 that is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.
27. (Withdrawn -- Previously presented) An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 10.
28. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable vehicle.
29. (New) The composition of claim 28, which further comprises an effective amount of an immunological adjuvant.
30. (New) The composition of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.
31. (New) The composition of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.
32. (New) The composition of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:13.